

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : LANGEDER ET AL 1 PCT
 SERIAL NO. : 10/519,874 FILED : DECEMBER 30, 2004
 TITLE : ELECTROCHEMICAL METHOD FOR CLEANING THE SURFACES
 OF METALLIC WORK PIECES AND CLEANING ELECTRODE

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


S I R :

Enclosed herewith please find copy of International Preliminary Examination Report. Entry of this Report into the official file of the above-referenced patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

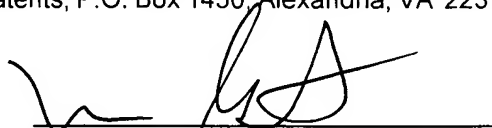
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 2, 2005.


 Maria Guastella

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

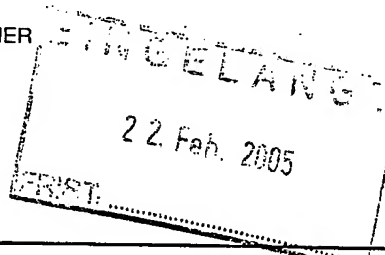
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NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 72.2)

To:

SONN & PARTNER
Riemergasse 14
A-1010 Wien
AUTRICHE



Date of mailing (day/month/year) 17 February 2005 (17.02.2005)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference R 41264	
International application No. PCT/AT2003/000112	International filing date (day/month/year) 16 April 2003 (16.04.2003)
Applicant FRONIUS INTERNATIONAL GMBH et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation made by the International Bureau of the international preliminary examination report established by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following elected Offices requiring such translation:

AZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, GH, KG, KP, KR, MK, MZ, RU, TM

The following elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

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3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report.

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Yolaine Cussac

Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35

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Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/AT2003/000112



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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference R 41264	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/AT2003/000112	International filing date (day/month/year) 16 April 2003 (16.04.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 01 July 2002 (01.07.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C25F 7/00, 1/00		
Applicant FRONIUS INTERNATIONAL GMBH		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
<input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report
II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority
III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention
V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited
VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application
VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 17 January 2004 (17.01.2004)	Date of completion of this report 15 September 2004 (15.09.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AT2003/000112

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
pages _____ 1-9 _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims:
pages _____ 1-16 _____, as originally filed
pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the drawings:
pages _____ 1/3-3/3 _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-16	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

The subject matter of claims 1-16 does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(3).

This report makes reference to the following documents:

D1: WO 01 32960 A (EDK RESEARCH AG), 10 May 2001 (2001-05-10), mentioned in the application

D2: EP-A-0 663 461 (DALIC), 19 July 1995 (1995-07-19)

D2 discloses a method and an electrode for cleaning the surfaces of metallic workpieces; an insulating layer impregnated with an electrolyte is arranged between the electrode and the workpiece. The subject matter of claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 14 differs from D2 in that the electrode comprises a device for generating vibrations.

D1 discloses a device and a method for electrochemical cleaning combined with vibrations, the electrolyte being present as a non-immobilised liquid. D1 combines electrochemical and mechanical cleaning effects. It therefore appears obvious to modify the cleaning electrode of D2 with a vibration device of the type described in D1, if an improvement of the cleaning effect is sought, while avoiding the disadvantages of a non-immobilised liquid

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electrolyte of the type used in D1.

Moreover, it is well known that the combination of chemical and mechanic cleaning is very effective, and therefore the subject matter of claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9-13, 15 and 16 does not appear to involve an inventive step.